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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 01407 111115Z

15
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W
---------- 056618
O R 111100Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1788
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 1407

EXDIS

E O 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US IS UR
SUBJECT: EBAN'S MEETING WITH SECRETARY

1. I HAD DISCUSSION WITH EBAN AT AIRPORT THIS MORNING JUST PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE RE SOVIET ROLE IN THE MID EAST IN CONTEXT GROMYKO SWING THROUGH CAIRO AND DAMASCUS. EBAN SAID ISRAELIS WERE SOMEWHAT WORRIED ABOUT POSSIBLE NEGATIVE EFFECT OF GROMYKO VISIT IN CAIRO ON SADAT'S WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE DOWN ROAD OF ACCOMMODATION WITH ISRAEL. RE SYRIA, ISRAELIS ARE CONCERNED LEST RECENT HEIGHTENED TENSION ON NORTHERN FRONT REFLECTS SOVIET INTENTION TO MAKE DISENGAGEMENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH SYRIA EVEN MORE DIFFICULT.

2. ON SUBJECT SYRIAN DISENGAGEMENT, EBAN NOTED THAT GOI WAS PLANNING SEND SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE TO WASHINGTON IN NEXT TEN DAYS OR SO. MRS MEIR WOULD NOT RPT NOT SEND DAYAN UNLESS SYRIANS WERE PREPARED TO SEND EQUALLY HIGH-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVE, WHICH SEEMS UNLIKELY. THE SCENARIO AS EBAN SAW IT WAS THAT ISRAEL WOULD SEND TO WASHINGTON CHIEF OF STAFF ELAZAR OR OTHER HIGH-RANKING MILITARY, WITH SYRIANS SENDING HOPEFULLY EQUALLY SENIOR BUT MORE LIKELY RELATIVELY LOW-RANKING MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE WHO HAD NO POWER TO DISCUSS ANYTHING, MUCH LESS DECIDE. UPSHOT WOULD BE REQUIREMENT FOR ANOTHER VISIT TO THE AREA BY THE SECRETARY IN NEAR FUTURE IN ORDER TO TRY TO GET THINGS UNSTUCK.
KEATING
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PAGE 02 TEL AV 01407 111115Z

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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